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EXAMINER

SURYAWANSHI, SURESH

| | |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2115

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/076,593

Applicant(s)

ENAMI ET AL.

Examiner

Suresh K. Suryawanshi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6, 8-17 and 19-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6, 8-17 and 19-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 2-6, 8-17 and 19-30 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: "electric device" should have been "electronic device" at line 10. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 2-6, 8-17 and 19-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsai (US Patent no 6,283,789 B1¹).
5. As per claim 2, Tsai teaches an electronic device [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; device 25], comprising:

¹ Prior art cited by examiner in the prior office action.

an interface for data transfer including a signal line and a power supply line with a limited maximum allowable current, said interface allowing the supply of predetermined electric power to the electronic device from external equipment with power supply function only when predetermined communication is performed between the electronic device and the external equipment via the interface [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; USB port 23 having a signal line and a power line with a limited maximum allowable current according to the USB and IEEE1394 standards; col. 3, lines 50-56; col. 4, lines 1-11], and wherein said electronic device is adapted to operate with more current consumption than is provided for through a single port of said interface [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; clearly using a power adapter to fulfill the more current consumption; therefore, Tsai provides an alternate way to fulfill this desire of the device by providing another USB cable];

the said electronic device comprising:

at least two ports being included as part of the interface [Fig. 6, 13; col. 3, lines 51-53];

control means connected to each of said two ports of the interface [Fig. 6, 13; col. 3, line 51 -- col. 4, line 27 in view of Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; coordination between two ports of the device is necessary];

a body portion connected to said control means [col. 1, lines 42-61; inherent to the system as a body portion of the device should be connected to the control means or in other word the control means should be in connection with a body portion of the device]; and

power supply control means connected between each respective power supply line of said at least two ports of the interface and a power supply line of said body portion, wherein said control means performs on-control of said power supply control means only when the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted as a result of communication between said control means and the external equipment [col. 1, lines 42-61; col. 2, lines 1-26; a power supply control means is necessary to coordinate between two power sources while observing the USB and IEEE1394 standards].

6. As per claim 24, Tsai teaches a USB device [Fig. 27; col. 42-61; col. 2, lines 1-26] comprising:

a first device controller adapted to be connected to a host machine [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; Fig. 13; col. 4, lines 62-64; clearly showing a connection between first port of the device to a host machine];

a second device controller connected to said first device controller and being adapted to be connected to the host machine [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 39-63; second port 120 is connected to the host machine 200; col. 3, line 51 -- col. 4, line 27 in view of Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; coordination between two ports is necessary to allow proper current according to the USB and IEEE1394 standards]; and

a controlled device connected to said first device controller [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 26; Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; the peripheral device is like a scanner or a storage or a printer and etc.].

7. As per claim 3, Tsai teaches that interface has specifications that the supply of predetermined electric power to the electronic device from an external equipment with power supply function is permitted only when predetermined communication is performed between the electronic device and the external equipment via the interface [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; USB port 23 having a signal line and a power line with a limited maximum allowable current according to the USB and IEEE1394 standards; col. 3, lines 50-56; col. 4, lines 1-11], and wherein said control means, on the basis of the result of communication with the external equipment, controls said body portion in such a manner that at least part of functions of said body portion can not be used until the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted, and all of the functions of said body portion

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become available only when the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted [col. 1, lines 42-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

8. As per claim 4, Tsai teaches that interface has specifications that the supply of predetermined electric power to the electronic device from an external equipment with power supply function is permitted only when predetermined communication is performed between the electronic device and the external equipment via the interface [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; USB port 23 having a signal line and a power line with a limited maximum allowable current according to the USB and IEEE1394 standards; col. 3, lines 50-56; col. 4, lines 1-11], and wherein said control means, on the basis of the result of communication with the external equipment, controls said body portion in such a manner that at least part of functions of said body portion can be used with limited performance until the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted, and all of the functions of said body portion become available without limitations only when the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

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9. As per claim 5, Tsai teaches that interface has specifications that the supply of predetermined electric power to the electronic device from an external equipment with power supply function is permitted only when predetermined communication is performed between the electronic device and the external equipment via the interface [Fig. 27; col. 1, lines 42-61; USB port 23 having a signal line and a power line with a limited maximum allowable current according to the USB and IEEE1394 standards; col. 3, lines 50-56; col. 4, lines 1-11], and wherein said body portion connected to said control means and adapted to perform substantive data transmission and reception with respect to the external equipment, wherein said substantive data transmission and reception between said body portion and the external equipment is carried out through one of said at least two ports of the interface [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

10. As per claims 6 and 8-10, Tsai teaches that body portion comprises an information storage device [col. 3, lines 44-46].

11. As per claim 11, Tsai teaches that body portion comprises a disk recording and reproducing device, and said at least part of the functions is a data recording function [col. 3, lines 44-46; inherent to the system].

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12. As per claim 12, Tsai teaches that body portion comprises a disk recording and reproducing device, and said at least part of the functions with limited performance is disk rotation speed [col. 3, lines 44-46; inherent to the system].

13. As per claims 13-17 and 18-23, Tsai teaches that interface is a USB interface, said predetermined communication is a configuration operation, and said control means comprises a device controller [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

14. As per claim 25, Tsai teaches that first device controller is configured to undertake transmission and reception of information between said controlled device and the host machine after each of said first and second device controllers has completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine [col. 2, lines 1-6; col. 3, lines 51-62].

15. As per claim 26, Tsai teaches that first device controller is configured to control operation of said controlled device in such a manner that the controlled device operates with current consumption below a maximum value as specified by the USB Standard on conditions that said first device controller has completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine and said second drive controller has not completed a connection procedure with respect the host machine [col. 1, lines 37-41; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

16. As per claim 27, Tsai teaches that first device controller is configured to control operation of said controlled device in such a manner that the controlled device operates with current consumption below a maximum value as specified by the USB Standard on conditions that said second drive controller has completed a connection procedure with respect the host machine and said first device controller has not completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine [col. 1, lines 37-41; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

17. As per claim 28, Tsai teaches that first and second device controllers are integrated into a unitary structure [Fig. 19].

18. As per claim 29, Tsai teaches that first device controller is adapted to send instructions to second device controller, at least one of said instructions including a command instructing said second device controller to communicate with the host machine [Fig. 6, 13; col. 2, lines 1-26; a essential to the system as to check and make sure the second port is connected to the host to provide the extra power supply].

19. As per claim 30, Tsai teaches that second device controller is capable of sending configuration data to the host machine to cause the host machine to generate power [Fig. 6, 13; col. 2, lines 1-26; as the ports 110 and 120 are similar and wherein 2 pins conduct data and 2 pins conduct power].

Response to Arguments

20. Applicant's arguments filed 4/8/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

21. In the remarks, applicants argued in substance that (1) Tsai fails to teach or suggest "control means that performs on-control of said power supply control means only when the supply of a predetermined electronic power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted as a result of communication between said control means and the external equipment"; (2) Tsai fails to teach or suggest at least "a second device controller connected to said first device controller."

22. As to point (1), Tsai teaches that it is well know in the art about providing the needed extra power through a power adapter when a device requires more power than the power coming over a USB cable connected to a host machine. Tsai eliminates the need of a power adapter as now one can use a second USB cable with existing a first USB cable. Tsai does not go in detail about the control means as it is quite clear that it is inherent to the system of a device that utilizes the second USB cable having a proper control means to observe the USB and IEEE1394 standards [col. 1, lines 42-61; col. 2, lines 1-26]. Moreover, the prior art device that utilizes a power adapter has to have a control means to make sure the device gets the proper power. Therefore, Tsai does not have to detail the control means as Tsai focuses on the cable system.

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23. As to point (2), Tsai teaches that it is well known in the art about providing the needed extra power through a power adapter when a device requires more power [col. 1, lines 42-61]. Thus, there is a second device controller connected to said first device controller to make sure the device gets the proper power. Since Tsai enhances the prior art invention by eliminating the need of a power adapter by utilizing a second USB cable [col. 2, lines 1-26], the second USB cable has to be under monitor of the second device controller. The system as whole will make sure the device gets proper power in accordance of the USB and IEEE1394 standards. Therefore, the second device controller is connected to the first device controller.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suresh K. Suryawanshi whose telephone number is 571-272-3668. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

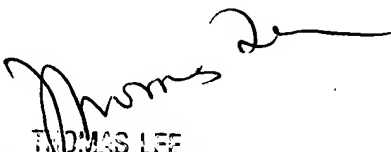
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

sks

June 13, 2005



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